THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appireants : Yasuo Inohana et al. Confirmation No.:

Serial No. : 10/667,709

Filed : September 22, 2003

TC/A.U.

Examiner

Docket No. : 03-591 Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits the documents listed hereinbelow, copies enclosed.

- (1) Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 63-35761 (published on February 16, 1988). The document is in Japanese; however an English abstract is attached hereto.
- (2) Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 61-130478 (published on June 18, 1986). The document is in Japanese; however an English abstract is attached hereto.
- (3) Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2002-275563 (published on September 25, 2002). The document is in Japanese; however an English abstract is attached hereto.

- (4) Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2001-294957 (published on October 26, 2001). The document is in Japanese; however an English abstract is attached hereto.
- (5) Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2001-303159 (published on October 31, 2001). The document is in Japanese; however an English abstract is attached hereto.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,

Yasuo Inohana et al.

By

Gregory P. LaPointe

Attorney for Applicants

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Date: March 24, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on March 24, 2004.

Pachel Discitelli

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STATEMENT BY ARE

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Sheet

Group Art Unit

Complete if Known 10/667,709 Application Number Filing Date First Named Inventor Yasuo Inohana et al.

03-591

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Examiner Name of Attorney Docket Number

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials *	Cite No.'	U.S. Pa	atent Document	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages Columns Lines Where Relevan			
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document		Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevan Passages or Relevant Figures Appear			
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	For Office ³	Number	nent nd Code ⁵ if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ₆		
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¹ Unique citation designation number. 2 See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark hee if English language Translation is attached.

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Sheet 1 of 1

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Application Number	10/607,709					
Filing Date	September 22, 2003					
First Named Inventor	Yasuo Inohana et al.					
Group Art Unit	1742					
Examiner Name						
Attorney Docket Number	03-591					

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Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

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